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PROWHISKERS CLUB FORMED.
Girls at Harrisburg, Neb., to Reject
All Beardless Men.

Harrisburg, Neb.—A number of
young society women of this western
Nebraska town have formed a pro-
whiskers society and have signed an
agreement which binds them solemnly
to discourage attentions from
young, middle aged or old men who do
not wear beards and not under any
circumstances to marry men of any
age who do not wear full beards.
They read a newspaper story re-
cently to the effect that the girls of
another town had agreed not to per-
mit men who wore beards to pay
court to them. The Harrisburg girls
say that their sisters in the other
town have assumed a wrong attitude
toward the whiskers question and that
they themselves have taken the cor-
rect and patriotic stand.
They maintain stoutly that men
with whiskers are handsomer and
every way more acceptable as lovers,
husbands and fathers than are men
without them; that in earlier times it
was almost the universal custom in
this country for men to wear full
beards and that such beards were
then regarded as genuine ornaments,
but that through ridicule the good old
custom has been made obsolete.
They say that they have formed
their society and signed an agree-
ment not to encourage attentions from
beardless men and not in any event
to marry men without full beards in
order to reestablish the good old cus-
tom of wearing full beards.

OIL SOAKED EELS BURN FINE.
Forest of Natural Candles Near New-
ton, N. J.
Newton N. J.—A company to mar-
ket eels to be burned as a substitute
for gas or lamps is being formed here.
The promoters swear they have "the
electric eel beaten by several candle
power." At least 20,000 eels, from six
inches to three feet long, are instantly
available. All that need be done is to
pluck them out of the mud on the
banks of the Paulus Kill, where they
are standing on their tails.

A big iron tank, full of petroleum
and acids, which had been in use at
the old Newton gas works, was
dumped into a stream tributary to the
Kill. The liquid slowly percolated in
the Kill. Quickly it poisoned all the
fish, and thousands of them were
found dead. But the eels were
tougher. Soaked with the oil and
acids, but trying to escape, they bur-
rowed into the soft mud of the banks.
Then came a hard freeze, and re-
cently a thaw. It left the 20,000 eels
preserved by the cold and the acids,
saturated with petroleum, "a little
forest of natural candles waiting to
be lighted."

"Already many families in the sub-
urbs of Newton are using the lumin-
ous eel for household purposes," say
the promoters. "The light is soft,
white, brilliant, and reliable. There
is no odor perceptible, and in many
ways the new light is considered pref-
erable to any illuminant available in
the town."

Sues Railroad 2,140 Times.
Appleton, Wis.—Henry Miller, a
farmer, has begun 2,140 suits against
the Chicago & Northwestern Railway
company for \$21,400, or ten dollars for
each locomotive that has crossed his
farm since he advised the railroad
company to construct a culvert and
crossing. The complaints in these
cases fill about 600 type-written pages.

Italy's State Lottery.
Rome.—Italy's state lottery took in
\$17,000,000 in a year and gave back
in prizes \$9,000,000. Much of the
money came from the poorest people.

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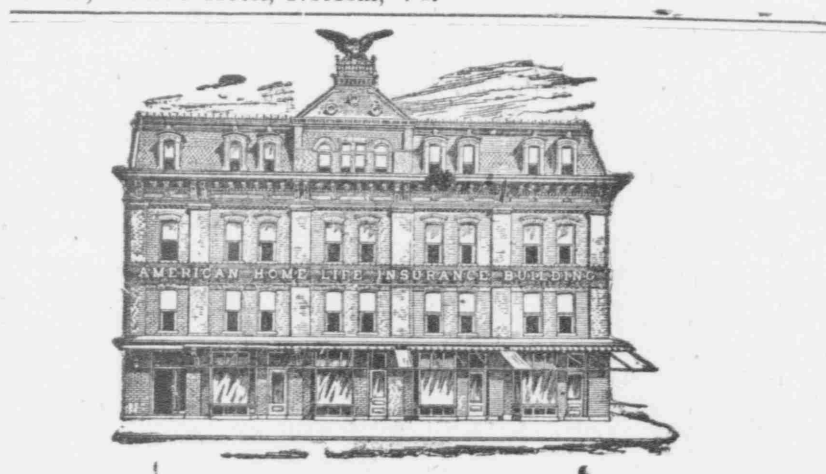
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FRANCE HAS 200,000 HOBBOES.
Army of 32,000 Rural Guards Found
Insufficient to Curb Them.

Paris.—An investigation just ended
by the ministry of the interior has re-
vealed the fact that in France there
are at least 200,000 tramps. Against
this horde of regular tramps the gov-
ernment has opposed a regiment of 32,
000 rural guards whose duty it is to
protect life and property in the coun-
try.

It is proposed to increase the num-
ber of rural guards so as to check va-
grancy. A request from all the de-
partments of France brought 26 re-
plies, which go to show that the mu-
nicipalities of those departments pro-
vided night lodgings for 466,000 per-
sons last year.
In the 38,000 municipalities of
France, however, there are to be
found only 3,000 night refugees and in
many places the tramps cannot be
arrested because there is no place to
imprison them. During last year 32,
000 tramps were arrested, but about
20,000 of them could not be held be-
cause of lack of evidence to prove a
crime.

HEADS LIST IN BUCKEYE STATE.
Columbus Man Says He Was First to
Enlist in Ohio at Call of Lincoln.

Columbus.—It now develops that
Major Henry M. Nell of this city was
the first man to be enlisted in Ohio
under the call for troops by President
Lincoln for the civil war.
Major Nell has never spoken of his
distinction until now. The Major says
that when the message came from
Lincoln for the quota he was in Gov-
ernor William Dennison's office.

The governor, who was his brother-
in-law, related the contents of the
telegram, and Major Nell followed by
saying that he could be counted on
and desired to be the first man en-
rolled. When Lieutenant "Bob" Wil-
liams arrived from Washington that
night to recruit soldiers he swore Ma-
jor Nell in as a private.
Nell served in the short service and
was mustered out in 1864, after com-
manding a battery he had raised. This
honor of being the first Ohioan to en-
list has always been credited to Lorin
Andrews of Ashland, who died in Sep-
tember, 1861.